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Rapid Warrior™ Wins Top Honor at NHS

Unique Combination Tool Receives Prestigious Editor's Choice Award from *Popular Mechanics* at North America's Largest Retailer Show.

HAND SAW AND UTILITY KNIFE IN ONE RE-INVENTS CATEGORY.

BURLINGTON, Ontario, May 6, 2009 – How do you follow winning one of 2008's most desired new tool awards? If you are [Rapid Tools](#), you do it by taking the same award a year later. That's just what the innovative Canadian company has done, capturing the exclusive Editor's Choice Award from *Popular Mechanics* for the second year in a row at the National Hardware Show (NHS) in Las Vegas this week.

Retail buyers, writers, editors and broadcasters made their way to the Rapid booth to marvel at the all-new Rapid Warrior™, the first tool that transforms instantly from a top-quality utility knife to a sturdy hand saw; and it accepts most manufacturers' reciprocating saw blades.

The tool – which comes in fixed-style and lock-back (folding) models – was clearly a hit product at the NHS.

And no honor signifies that success more than winning the *Popular Mechanics* award. Of the several hundred new products on display, the home and feature editors of *Popular Mechanics* chose only 15 to receive the prestigious Editor's Choice Award, including the Warrior. Compounding the honor was the extreme rarity of a company winning back-to-back EC awards – the Rapid Shark™, a combination utility knife and wire stripper, won the 2008 award. See the 2009 *Popular Mechanics* online coverage [here](#).

Approximately 3,000 exhibitors from around the world gathered at the NHS to promote their *Next Big Thing* to a Who's Who of home improvement buyers including Home Depot, Lowe's, Sears, Ace, Home Hardware, Amazon, Wal-Mart and hundreds of other industry buyer and executives. According to Reed Expositions, which puts on the NHS, tens of thousands of delegates from dozens of countries were on hand, most looking for new products.

“Our editors test hundreds of tools over the course of the year so we can tell our readers which products are the new must-haves,” said James Meigs, editor-in-chief, *Popular Mechanics*. “We are thrilled to honor this year's 15 winners with our Editor's Choice Award and can say with confidence that these will be on the wish list of professionals, home mechanics and tinkerers alike in the year ahead.”

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Rapid Warrior Named *Popular Mechanics* Editor's Choice Winner 2-2-2-2

What makes the Warrior completely unique is its ability to transform from a utility knife to a utility saw. On the fixed model, it's just a twist of the wrist to open the knife body. Then toggle the heavy-duty mechanism up a quarter inch and slip in or remove any standard utility blade. Toggle down and insert or replace most any manufacturer's standard reciprocating saw blade. On the lock-back model, it's a two-step process that takes just a few seconds and requires no tools. Nothing to unscrew; no pieces to keep track of, just switch it, click it and you're ready to go. Both models feature extra blade storage in the knife handle.

DIYers and pros will find dozens of time-saving uses for the Warrior. If you need to take just a little off a piece of PVC pipe or wood trim, no need to stop, go find a saw, and finish the job. Now, you easily snap a different blade into your Warrior, and you'll be done in seconds.

Warrior Adds Value & Convenience to any Toolbox

It's easy to imagine how many uses, how much saved time and the value the Warrior will add to any toolbox. Need to jab a hole in the wall to install an outlet or switch? Simply pop your drywall blade into the Warrior, and when the rough work is done, switch back to the utility knife for the fine cleanup.

Trying to cut a copper pipe by forcing a hacksaw or a power saw into a tight space under a sink or behind a wall is a real challenge. Now, just slip your hacksaw blade into the Warrior and you'll have easy access, making the job a snap.

The Warrior's quality and rugged design, and its soft-grip handle, mean you can go places you've never gone before, and do jobs easier and faster. Both Warrior knives and a Value Pack will be available this August. The value pack will include either a fixed-style or lock-back knife, 5 Rapid serrated-edge utility blades, a premium drywall saw blade, general purpose saw blade, hacksaw and blade case – all for \$20-30 retail. The fixed-style knife, with extra utility blades, will be about \$13 and the lock-back with blades will be about \$20. Rapid replacement blades will be available soon, but the Warrior will accept many of the blades everybody has already in their toolboxes.

“Winning the Editor's Choice once was amazing,” said Rapid founder and CEO Simon Medhurst. “But to win two years in a row is very special and humbling. We're extra proud to be recognized by a world-renown authority like *Popular Mechanics*. The Warrior is a rugged, multi-functional, one-of-a-kind tool, meant to be used for the toughest jobs, and it is very rewarding to have experts like *Popular Mechanics* notice the hard work we've put into designing and building it.”

The Warrior will be in stores this fall. Retailers are being finalized now. Other products from Rapid Tools, including the Shark, are available at Home Hardware, Ace Hardware, Sears.com, Amazon.com and [other sources](#).

About Rapid Tools – [Rapid Tools](#)[™], based in Burlington, Ontario, was established in 2002 with the mission of improving commonly used hand tools through innovation, advanced design and superior engineering. It is a division of Siber Holdings, created by Simon and Bernadette Medhurst, a privately owned corporation that has been in existence for 15 years. Rapid Tools designs and manufactures a complete line of high-quality utility knives and knife blades. The foundation of the company is their patented, long-lasting Rapid Edge[®] knife blade that features a serrated edge and multiple cutting surfaces. Available only from Rapid Tools, Rapid Edge blades cut better and last longer than any other blade, and will fit in standard utility knives. Rapid Tools knives and blades are available at the leading home improvement retailers in Canada and the United States. For more information about Rapid Tools and their products, call 1-905-336-0553 or visit www.rapidtools.net.

About Popular Mechanics – [Popular Mechanics](#) is a magazine that helps readers master the modern world. In addition to providing hands-on coverage of personal technology, cars and home improvement, *PM* reports in depth on the science and technology behind major issues – including such topics as disaster planning, hydrogen fuel and other energy alternatives, military expenditures, and digital privacy. Each month, nearly 9 million readers turn for advice and news to the magazine's editors and contributors, including the likes of Jay Leno, astronauts Buzz Aldrin and Tom Jones, and roboticist Daniel H. Wilson. In addition to its U.S. flagship, *Popular Mechanics* publishes nine editions around the world. *Popular Mechanics* is published by Hearst Magazines, a unit of [Hearst Corporation](#) and one of the world's largest publishers of monthly magazines, with nearly 200 editions around the world, including 15 U.S. titles and 19 magazines in the United Kingdom, published through its wholly owned subsidiary, The National Magazine Company Limited. Hearst reaches more adults than any other publisher of monthly magazines (75.6 million total adults, according to MRI, Spring 2008).

Bernadette and Simon Medhurst accept the Editor's Choice Award from Publisher Tom Congdon, left, & Editor-in-Chief James Meigs.

